

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: To Be Assigned  
Applicant: Osamu Mizuno et al.  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: TRANSDUCER-SUPPORTING STRUCTURE  
TC/A.U.:  
Examiner:

**DIVISIONAL OF:**

Application No.: 09/979,242  
Applicant: Osamu Mizuno et al.  
Filed: February 22, 2002  
Title: TRANSDUCER-SUPPORTING STRUCTURE  
TC/A.U.: 2653  
Examiner: C. R. Beacham  
Confirmation No.: 2421  
Docket No.: MTS-3287US

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the patents and publications listed on the enclosed PTO Form 1449 are not required to be provided, because they were cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 09/979,242, filed February 22, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

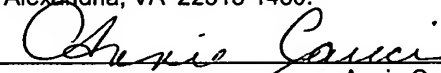
AR/dlm  
Enclosures: PTO Form 1449

Dated: January 26, 2004

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<b>EXPRESS MAIL</b>	Mailing Label Number:	EV 418253947 US
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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Annie Caucci

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  <b>Information Disclosure          Statement by Applicant</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO.  MTS-3287US1	SERIAL NO  To be assigned
	APPLICANT Osamu Mizuno et al.	
	FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exmr Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	5,114,913	5/19/1992	Coufal et al.			
	6,307,719	10/23/2001	Mallary			
	5,968,606	10/19/1999	Osuna et al.			
	5,712,748	1/27/1998	Masse			
	6,021,844	2/8/2000	Batchelder			
	5,808,834	9/15/1998	Jurgenson			
	6,144,530	11/7/2000	Shiraishi et al.			
	4,394,530	07/1983	Kaufman, Lance R.			
	5,956,211	09/1999	Adley, James M.			
	6,009,051	12/1999	Kazama, Toshio			
	6,268,980	07/2001	Shiraishi, et al.			
	6,282,062	08/2001	Shiraishi, Masashi			
	6,404,706	06/2002	Stovall, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exmr Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES   NO
	JP 8-138338	5/31/96	Japan			X
	JP 8-63923	3/8/96	Japan			X
	JP 8-235556	9/13/96	Japan			X
	JP 10-283604	10/23/98	Japan			X

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1.	International Search Report corresponding to PCT/JP00/03152 dated July 18, 2000.
	2.	English Translation of International Search Report corresponding to PCT/JP00/03152.

Examiner	Date Considered
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exmr Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exmr Initial		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES   NO
		JP 6-195851	7/15/94	Japan (w/English abstract)			
		JP 7-129902	5/19/95	Japan (w/English abstract)			
		JP 55-058822	5/1/80	Japan (w/ English abstract)			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
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	FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
		5,943,188	08/24/99	Kazama (with corresponding JP 10-124802)			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES   NO
		JP 10-124802	05/15/98	Japan (with English abstract and corresponding USP 5,943,188)			X

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		<b>1.</b>	International Search Report corresponding to PCT/JP00/03152 dated July 4, 2002.

Examiner	Date Considered
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